18: Savonnet--12 E-5 (ca. 1955) 1956 MS37 Senegal MS37 Thies

/78 cont./

2. The Quarters

1. The quarters of European type.

361 563 If we eliminate the two military bases that offer very special characteristics peculiar to their internal organization, Thiès contains three quarters of Western conception: the Cité Ballabey /Ballabey District/, the Vieille Escale /Old Escale/, the Résidence. While the first shelters a population almost wholly European, in the other two the Whites are in the minority (one White to four Blacks).

No systematic segregation really exists in the city. The Cité Ballabey itself is a district for operatives belonging to the managerial staffs; it is in no way closed to Africans who have reached the rank required by their establishment. Although located near the workshops, it is a quiet zone. Its park is magnificent. The villas there are arranged regularly 351 according to a checkerboard plan in the purest colonial style. [342] Each square of the checkerboard is occupied by a villa divided into two twin and symmetrical apartments; courtyards and gardens extend out on all sides of the dwelling; some mango trees with dense foliage shelter the rabbit hutches, the hen house, and the garage from the heat of the sun. It is easy 341 to date the construction of each of them by its architectural 342 style: the pink brick corresponds to the years 1925-1930; the reinforced concrete, painted light beige, dates from after the war... The quarters of the D. M. A. and of the air base, with some variations, show almost no originality of their own and are comparable to the Cité Ballabey.

The Old Escale presents the appearance of a quarter [363] in a Mediterranean city: narrow streets bordered by storied buildings built out of the white limestone from Bargny; a small, light balcony with a metal balustrade projects over the sidewalk and runs from one end of the building to the other; a very slightly sloping red tile roof under a blue sky accentuates this impression of the Mediterranean world.

351 Each concession, square in plan, forms a regular block of

/78 cont./

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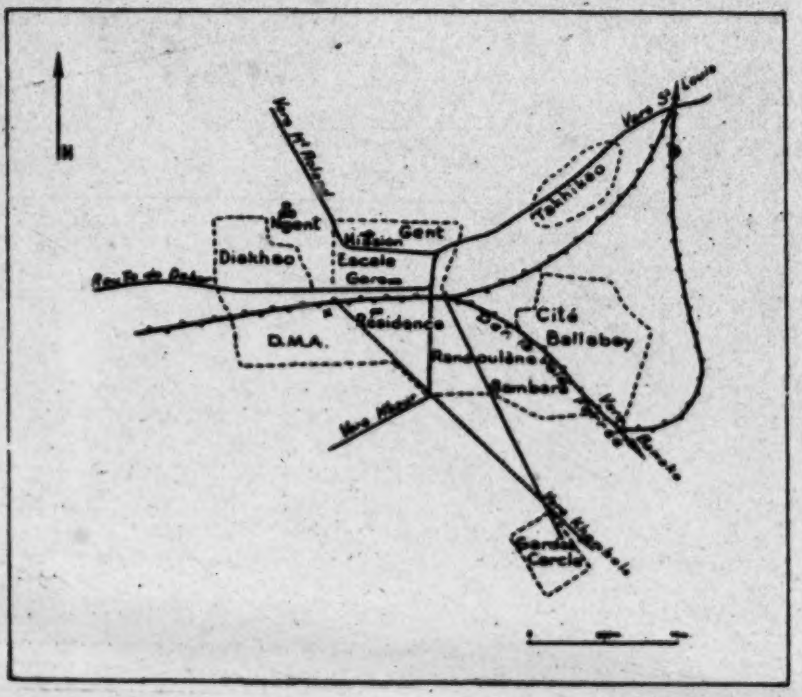

Fig. 3. Thiès in 1940.

351 buildings pierced here and there by a portal which gives access to the courtyards, always littered, of the shop or workshop. /79/
/Fig. 3 appears here./

361 One now sees a modification of this oldish architecture and
[341] attempts at renovation. This quarter, built essentially for commercial purposes, did not leave any space free for expansion; no plaza, no small garden offers a pleasant spot in this assemblage dedicated essentially to trade.

The quarter of the Residence is quieter, and also cooler. The arrangement of the settlement pattern is looser; the houses
[351] are spread out, and each is separated from its neighbor by a kitchen garden, a courtyard, or a small pleasure garden. Near the administrative buildings care has even been taken to reserve and arrange some public squares in the shade of immense Gambia

22:Winterbotham et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 MS37 Senegal MS 37

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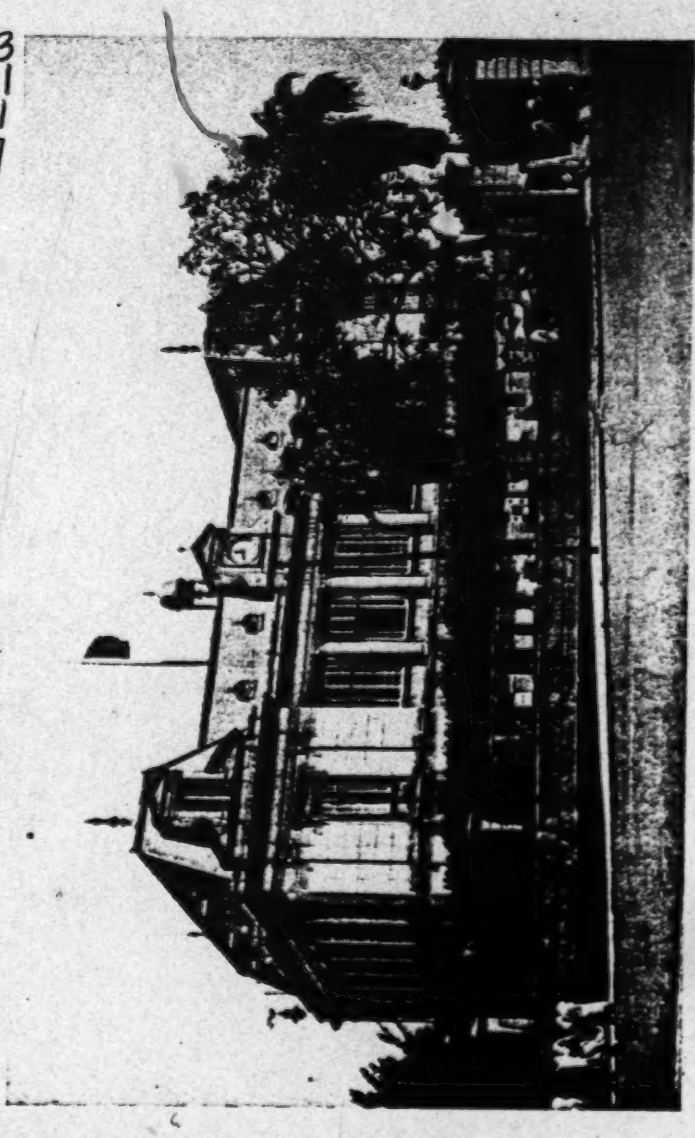

117. *Dakar: the Mairie*

[facing p. 135]